

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., MONDAY, MAY 22, 1859.

TRANSIENT ADVERTISERS will please bear in mind that their advertisements cannot appear in this paper without first being paid for in advance. This rule will be strictly carried out, without respect to persons. No name for either the Daily or Weekly Journal, will hereafter be entered on our list without payment being made in advance, and the paper will in all cases be discontinued when the time paid for expires. Oct. 20, 1857.

Discussion at Clinton, Sampson County.

In fulfillment of a published appointment, Messrs. Ellis and McRae, the candidates of the Democratic and opposition parties respectively, addressed the people of Sampson county, at the Court House in Clinton, on Saturday, the 22d instant. Wishing to hear the two gentlemen together, as well as to enjoy the pleasure of meeting many of our friends in that county, we made a hurried visit to Clinton on the occasion of the discussion. Judge Ellis arrived on Friday evening. Mr. McRae, having addressed the people of Robeson on the day previous, did not arrive until about 11 o'clock on Saturday forenoon. The Judge, who had been somewhat indisposed previous to the opening of the canvass, and measurably, appeared to have improved in health, and felt better than he had for some time. Mr. McRae, apart from the fatigue of travel, appeared also to be in good health. A goodly number of the citizens of the county continued to arrive during the forenoon, and at the time agreed upon for opening the discussion, 12½ o'clock, the Court House was filled; indeed, we might say, thronged. Our obliging host, Mr. Beaman, had hurried dinner in order to accommodate, and thus all were prepared to listen, without interruption, to the addresses of the candidates.

At about 25 minutes to one Mr. McRae opened.—He said he had traveled far that morning, and endured considerable fatigue, in order to keep his appointment with the good people of Sampson, before whom, he said, he did not appear as the candidate of a party, although his party affiliations were well known to them.

Mr. McRae then proceeded to draw a dark picture of the position of the State of North Carolina, and stated that she was either stationary or retrograding—that from 1830 to 1840, she had hardly increased in population, and from 1840 to 1850 had only increased 14 per cent. That her towns had not grown—her manufactures flourished, nor her wealth increased. That her town property was now depressed—her Railroad stocks below par—her debts already five millions, and her future liability six millions, and consequently her taxation greatly increased, and he contended that the rate of taxation must be still more increased. He asserted that the amount of revenue to be raised two years hence must be something like double of what it now is. That the State, under the acts chartering the Western N. C. Railroad Co., and the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Railroad Co., was liable to be called on for four millions for the first, and two millions for the second. That ten year bonds negotiated in 1849 would soon be due and must be met, along with the interest on the above sums. He did not say this for the purpose of casting blame, but to call attention to it. He did not blame internal improvement men. For himself he would not recommend the increase of the State debt to the extent of one dollar for any work of Internal Improvement now in progress in North Carolina. We understood Mr. McRae as agreeing with his competitor, Judge Ellis, that the appropriations under the acts chartering the Western North Carolina Railroad, and the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Railroad are already binding on the State, and therefore cannot come under the head of increase. Mr. McRae did not believe in the right to tax posterity for our Internal Improvements, nor to make those not directly on the line of such works bear any part of the burdens they imposed.

Mr. McRae commented at some length on Judge Ellis' letter to Mr. Dancy, also upon the Charlotte Convention and the platform therein adopted. He was quite severe and inclined to ridicule those gentlemen, formerly of the Whig party, but now acting with the Democrats, particularly those of them who attended the Charlotte Convention as delegates and took part in its proceedings. He thought the resolution on Internal Improvements two-sided and equivocal, intended to bear one significance in the East and another in the West. He said that his competitor, Judge Ellis, went for the Western Road, tunnel included, also the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford, and the Fayetteville and Western R. Road. He (Mr. McRae) would not go for any further aid to the Western N. C. Road or the Wilmington, Charlotte & Rutherford Road, nor for any appropriation to the Fayetteville and Western Road. Would transfer to the last named work, to aid in its completion, State stock in the Raleigh and Gaston R. Road. From this it would appear that McRae himself does not have any dependence upon distribution, for when the Fayetteville Road is brought home to him, he is forced to fall back upon some other "plan."

Mr. McRae made some sport over what he seemed to consider the new-born zeal of the Wilmington Journal, the Raleigh Standard and Judge Ellis in behalf of Fayetteville. The files of our paper will show that we have said nothing since the canvass commenced that we had not said before. Of course we take it for granted that Mr. McRae mistated simply through want of information on this particular fact.

Mr. McRae then went on to say that he was an Internal Improvement man—that he did not want the public works of the State neglected or their prosecution stopped, but he wanted to point the people to the vast public domain as a resource out of which to obtain the means to discharge their debts and lighten their taxation. He contended that this domain was being squandered or given away, and that North Carolina ought to go for distribution in order that she might derive all the benefits that he believed Ohio, Illinois and other new States had derived from land grants. He said that there had been more lands given away than there had been sold, by several millions of acres. He drew a glowing picture of the growth of Illinois and of Ohio, the giant of the West, with her revenue of \$3,600,000, and her large school fund. He appealed loudly to the poor men of Sampson to get this fund—to them he called. The rich men might not want it—they might not want the sons of the poor educated lest they should come in competition with their own sons, etc.

Mr. McRae did not assert that the constitution in words conferred the power to distribute, but claimed it to stand on the same footing with Mr. Jefferson's purchase of Louisiana. He then proceeded to quote and refer to various instances in which he asserted the power had been exercised and its exercise had met the approval of leading Democrats, as Wm. R. King and others.—This portion of Mr. McRae's speech was, so far as it went, identical with that which he delivered some time since in Wilmington. He did not refer definitely to his plan of distribution, and gave away a little before his time had expired, stating that he was very much fatigued and would notice some other points in his reply to Judge Ellis. Mr. McRae spoke about an hour and three quarters.

Mr. McRae having concluded, Judge Ellis rose to reply. His competitor, he said, had repudiated the notion of appearing as the candidate of a party, while, at the same time, he claimed to be a Democrat. He (Judge Ellis) was proud to say that he was the candidate of the great Democratic party, a party with which he had always taken a pride and pleasure in acting, and in sustaining whose principles and organization he had, in times gone by, stood shoulder to shoulder with his competitor. To that party and to its organization the country and the South owed much. It had conducted

us safely through perils from which all other political parties had shrunk. To it, under God, was due much of our present prosperity—to it alone could the South look with any confidence, for future security. He warned his brother Democrats to beware of attacks upon Democratic principles and Democratic organization—to forsake neither from considerations of mere expediency—to run after no deceptive nostrums, from which one of the benefits promised by their vendors could possibly be realized, but from which certain and inevitable evils must flow.

His competitor had referred disparagingly to the Democratic State Convention and the State platform of the party adopted by that Convention—he had thus, by ridiculing their State Convention, to which the Democrats of Sampson had sent delegates, presented his first claim to the support of Democrats. His second claim was the ridicule heaped upon the Democratic platform. In both he was cordially sustained by those tried and true Democratic Organs, the Raleigh Register, the Wilmington Herald, and other Know Nothing papers of the State, and his cordial affiliation with the bitterest opponents of the Democratic party was another great reason why Democrats should desert the principles and break up the organization of their party to follow after Mr. McRae. But Mr. McRae had a platform of his own laid down in his letter to Mr. Dancy. Mr. McRae had said that he ran no risk of missing the plank. Not easily, since it was made to catch all sorts of people—to take them in, so to speak. But having fixed up this remarkable platform Mr. McRae was seized with an excess of modesty, and didn't want to step on it himself. He wanted a "practical farmer," and then the "practical farmer," Mr. Leak, stepped on it, thinking himself invited, but he soon found his mistake, when the Raleigh Register coolly informed him that he wouldn't do—he couldn't hurt the organization of the Democratic party enough. In fact the Register butted Mr. Leak off the platform about as coolly as the locomotive butted the bull off the bridge, and at length Mr. McRae steps on to it and the Raleigh Register hoists his name as that of the man who is to make the inroads on the Democratic party, and Democrats are expected to vote for him!

Judge Ellis read the internal improvement resolution of the Democratic State Convention. There were now three Railroads in course of construction in the State—the Western North Carolina Road—the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Road, and the Fayetteville and Western Road. For two of these Roads appropriations had already been made; for the third there had been none, and it had so far failed for the want of it.—The Legislature of North Carolina had already appropriated \$4,000,000, and authorized a State subscription of that amount to the stock of the Western North Carolina Road. It had also authorized an endorsement by the State of the bonds of the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Road to the amount of something like two million dollars. These things were done, and neither himself nor his competitor could affect them by any recommendation, no matter which should be elected. He (Judge Ellis) was totally misrepresented on this point by the Raleigh Register and the Wilmington Herald.—The misrepresentation was, no doubt, unintentional, but it was none the less a misrepresentation, which these papers owed it to themselves to correct.—He did not propose to recommend to the next Legislature any appropriation for the Western N. C. Road, nor for the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Road. The appropriations had been already made to both—both had the guarantee of the State. The amounts appropriated would, in his opinion, be sufficient to complete these works. These amounts could not be called for—the existing appropriation could not be exhausted for years. And he never even thought of recommending to the next Legislature to make any new appropriation for either of these works. It, perhaps years hence, contrary to his expectation and belief, the amounts appropriated should not complete these works, he would certainly consider it sound policy then for the State, if her means would allow, to give the small additional sums which might be necessary to complete them and put them in a position to yield a return to the treasury, and confer their full measure of benefit on the State, rather than, for want of such small additional sums, to allow them to stop short and prove comparatively useless. In regard to the Fayetteville Road, he would recommend to the next Legislature that it be placed in as favorable a position as the other two roads.

Judge Ellis referred to the disposition exhibited by Mr. McRae, who claims to be a Democrat, to find fault with everything that the Democratic party does. He didn't like the Democratic Convention because there were some gentlemen there who used to be in opposition, but who had yielded to reason and joined themselves with us. Why, what had we been laboring for but to convince and convert those opposed to us? He was not pleased with the President because he did not appoint Abraham Venable. He was not pleased with Kansas. He was not pleased with Governor Briggs' appointments, and all this captiousness with Democrats, while his own name floated at the mast-heads of the Know Nothing presses of the State!

Once Mr. McRae was for organization—for Democratic candidates and Democratic organization. In 1852 he had presided over a Democratic State Convention, and expressed his sense of the honor conferred upon him in calling him to do so. That Convention had endorsed the very improvements over which he now made such a fuss. In 1858 Mr. McRae was down on party candidates and organization, down on the system of Internal Improvements he had been for in 1852. The Convention over which Mr. McRae presided in 1852—the resolutions passed by it—were ridiculed by the Raleigh Register then equally as the Charlotte Convention and its platform are now, and yet now we find Mr. McRae hand and glove with the Register, and his name at its head.

Judge Ellis proceeded to the constitutionality of distribution—he read the authority of Mr. Calhoun who pronounced it unconstitutional, and thought it even more unconstitutional than abolition itself. He referred to King's message vetoing Mr. Clay's bill—to Wm. R. King's report in 1833. Even Messrs. Clay and Webster had considered the distribution of the lands as unconstitutional. Mr. McRae himself had voted against Mr. Barringer's resolution in 1842. In 1852 he had in the Baltimore National Convention which nominated Mr. Pierce, of which he was a member, pronounced it "repugnant to the Constitution." In 1852 Mr. McRae had characterized distribution as a stain upon the escutcheon of Henry Clay, a bid for popularity, contrary to the "Deeds of Cession," unconstitutional and unwise.

His competitor had characterized the Democratic principle on this point as a shadow, an abstraction—it was an abstraction which, since Mr. McRae had commenced distributionist, had put thirty-six millions of money into the treasury of the United States; had saved us paying that much by way of tariff into the treasury; and more than that much by way of protection to the manufacturers of that section whose constant aim appears to be to strike at our most vital interests. He (Judge Ellis) addressed himself to the people of Sampson as sensible business men, as reasoning men, not as rich men or poor men, but he did not appeal to the prejudices as his competitor did—he appealed to reason, and he asked them what practical result could be expected from distribution, even if it was constitutional? If they took this money, the price of the public lands, and carried it from the people's Treasury in Washington, to the people's Treasury in Raleigh, what would they gain? If they got it at Raleigh, they would have to pay it back at Washington. If \$8,000,000 a year were taken out of the Federal Treasury, or prevented going in, the \$8,000,000 would have to be made up; and if North Carolina got her "share" of the distribution, she would al-

so be certain to have to bear her full share of the taxation. This whole thing was just neither more nor less than assumption of State debts, and the construction of Internal Improvements by the General Government.—It was the very thing the Black Republicans wanted. They did not care how much the United States Treasury might be depleted, because it would create a necessity for a high tariff, and thus enable them to turn their hands still more deeply into the pockets of the Southern people. Once conceded the principle involved, and the Black Republicans would make plenty of use of it to pay their debts and build their roads, and impose onerous tariffs for their benefit, and the South might whistle.

He did not agree with his competitor in the dismal picture he drew of North Carolina. He showed from the official report of the Comptroller of the State, that the value of lands and town property throughout the State had increased full fifty per cent in the eight years between 1847 and 1855. This surely did not show that North Carolina was either stagnant or retrograding—emigration from the State had been checked, and very many who had gone elsewhere had returned to their old mother. He showed that our School system was the best and most efficient at the South. The report of the Superintendent showed that instead of the hundred thousand illiterate persons that Mr. McRae in his Fayetteville speech, had said were growing up in the State, the number was only four thousand—that instead of one in four of males and one in three of females growing up in ignorance, as was formerly the case, there was now only one in fifty. He believed that an honest, more independent, more correctly trained and happier people were growing up in North Carolina than in Illinois or Ohio. The State was more prosperous since 1850, and he felt no hesitation in expressing his opinion that the census of 1860 would show a much larger rate of increase than for any ten years previous. North Carolina contained no district that would send to Congress any such man as Joshua R. Giddings. As for the picture of future taxation, he believed that to be wholly overdrawn—the debts which his competitor had figured up could not be made charges upon the public treasury for years, because it was impossible that the conditions under which the appropriations were made to the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Road and the Western N. C. Road could be complied with, so as to call for these appropriations under a number of years. Neither did he believe that these roads would be the dead load upon the treasury that had been represented. When completed he believed they would assist in bearing the burdens of the State. He did not apprehend the necessity of any largely increased taxation, nor of any very heavy taxation at all, as a permanent thing. When the improvements were gone into, out of which debt has arisen, all parties were equally responsible—all knew that they must cost money—Mr. McRae knew it. He had presided over a Democratic Convention in 1852 which recommended their prosecution, and in the same year had pronounced distribution repugnant to the Constitution so that, while going for prosecution, he could not then have contemplated payment out of the public lands.

Mr. McRae had talked of "squandering." There may have been improper land bills passed, but for that the Democrats were not responsible, as they could not be held to answer for the doings of a corporal's guard of men like Douglas. But the lands had not been squandered to the extent represented—much of what was called squandering was an act of justice to those who had fought the battles of their country, and no American heart would refuse to recognize the consideration. Much had been given in the way of swamp lands, which the States would drain and the United States would not, and therefore never could have realized a dollar from. Some were ceded to the States in consideration of their waiving the right of taxation over the balance. The school lands were parts of this cession, and he thought the equivalent a just one. So, brought down to a point, the railroad grants, about which so much was said, formed a very small part; and although abuses had crept in, the balance of well-informed opinion was that the United States Treasury had, on the whole, been a gainer by these alternate section grants, to which, however, he was opposed from their tendency to abuse.

But his competitor's plan was impracticable. That plan was to close up the land offices for ten years. For the United States to stop sales for that length of time—to issue land warrants to the States for all the amount of lands withdrawn, about three hundred millions of acres. If the land offices were closed, who was to prevent squandering? If three hundred millions were thrown on the market, who was to buy them in ten years? If thirty-two States were competing for customers, who does not know that warrants would go down to little or nothing, and the lands be sacrificed, North Carolina's "share" included. There was no danger of further extravagant grants during Mr. Buchanan's administration—he was pledged against them, and he would redeem his pledges. Judge Ellis closed with an earnest appeal to the people of the South to be harmonious and united, and not to commence here in North Carolina the disorganization of the Democratic party, a consummation so ardently desired by the Black Republicans. Judge Ellis spoke two hours.

Mr. McRae rose to reply. He thought the speech of his competitor a most extraordinary one—he had indulged in sarcasm and invective, but had not met his (Mr. McRae's) arguments. He (Mr. McRae) had pointed out to the people the burdens under which they labored, and the still greater burdens under which they would soon have to labor, and he had suggested a remedy.—Mr. McRae referred to the bill introduced into Congress by Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, granting six millions of acres to the States for the foundation of agricultural colleges. He eulogized the object and censured the Democratic members of Congress for voting against it. He said that his competitor and those who acted with him professed great devotion to the South and yet went for the admission of Kansas with a land grant of twenty-three millions of acres, and this to a State that would send a free soil member of Congress and two free soil Senators. He quoted Mr. Ashe's address to his constituents in 1852, in which Mr. A. complained of the squandering going on, and stated that he could not then say how that squandering was to be stopped. He again commented upon the Charlotte Convention, to which he said all sorts of birds flew—owls, bats, jays, etc., etc., mentioning by name Messrs. Kerr, Osborne, Steele, Gen. Winslow, and others. He again contended that the Internal Improvement resolution of that Convention was equivocal, and read from the Western Sentinel to show that one Democratic paper understood it to mean something else from what the Standard and Journal did.

He referred to the distribution position assigned to Judge Ellis in 1853 by the Wilmington Free Press, contending that Mr. Ellis owed to himself and to his friend Mr. Ashe to have contradicted the assertion of the Press, if it did him injustice. Judge Ellis rejoiced and dissected Morrill's bill, showing it to be a Trojan horse bearing evil to the South, and, in principle, granting land under conditions to which North Carolina could not accede. He corrected Mr. McRae about the original bill for the admission of Kansas. Kansas claimed 23,000,000 acres, but the bill disregarded that claim. He felt satisfied to stand with the South in favor of Kansas, when its admission established a principle dear to the Southern people and essential to their equality in the Union, when he saw how its probable defeat at one time was hailed by the abolitionists of the North—by Burlingame, Seward, Greeley and Giddings as a blow struck for abolitionism—when these men hailed the defection of a few Southern men upon this question as an evidence of the growth of abolition feeling at the South. However these men might

do injustice to his competitor thereby, they would certainly rejoice over the success of that competitor.

Judge Ellis said he had never seen the paper called the Free Press until long afterwards. He had never authorized any one to use his name in 1853, or at any other time, in favor of distribution, for he never was in favor of it. He did not think there was any clashing among Democratic papers as asserted by his competitor.

Mr. McRae arose and stated that Judge Ellis had said in Anson that he would recommend to the next Legislature to make further appropriations for the railroads now in progress, if the credit of the State would allow. He wished the position of himself and his competitor distinctly stated and understood.

Judge Ellis said he had taken the position which he now repeated—that no new appropriation could be needed for either the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Road, or the Western N. C. Road—that he believed the appropriations already made would be sufficient to complete these works, and at any rate could not be exhausted for some years to come—if these appropriations did not fully complete these works he believed that it would be right and politic for the State, when the time came, to grant the necessary assistance, rather than to let works in which she had taken so large an interest, fall for want of a comparatively very small amount of money. He would allow the Western N. C. Road to progress simultaneously on both sides of the mountains. He would recommend to the next Legislature to treat the Fayetteville and Western Road as well as it has already treated either of the other two.

Mr. McRae—I would not recommend any measure that would add one cent to the present indebtedness of the State. I ask my competitor if he will or will not do so. Judge Ellis—I am too old a debater to be caught that way. I have stated my position as plain as the English language admits. Mr. McRae—He refuses to answer.

And so the debate closed. Throughout, the gentlemen treated each other with marked courtesy and respect.—Mr. McRae is a fluent and forcible speaker, and fully maintained his reputation, but failed to make any impression on the crowd, which went with Judge Ellis all through. The Judge's perfect coolness and self-possession—his powers of quiet sarcasm—his close analysis and statesmanlike views made a most favorable impression, if any reliance is to be placed upon appearances.—Mr. McRae seemed to feel this, and displayed some little irritation in his closing reply, and in the cross-firing at the winding up. We state only the simple fact when we say that the Judge gave more than satisfaction to his friends. Mr. McRae will make no impression among the Democrats of Sampson, and Judge Ellis will receive some votes which have not previously been cast for a Democratic candidate.

Good.

The people of New England have long deemed it not only a privilege conferred, but a duty imposed upon them to take general charge of the whole Union. To inter-meddle with the affairs of all their sister States—to tell the South that she must not do so and so, or have so and so. In fact, the good Eastern men thought themselves the only people in the United States privileged to throw stones—the great examples who did not live in glass houses. And they have thrown stones with a vengeance. They have sworn that they could no longer stay in a Union with the South under a constitution tolerating slavery.

While they were going on in this way, the good Cod-fishers of Cape Cod, the Mackerel-catchers of some where else, and all singular and the scaly gentlemen of "Down East" generally, have been in the enjoyment of the only direct bounty bestowed by the United States—they have been literally a privileged class; a "Codfish Aristocracy;" a Mackerel oligarchy—a lordship of fish-barrels. These fishery bounties have amounted, during the last ten years, to \$325,000 per annum.

Well, after having endeavored to undermine every social institution and every material interest of the South; after having turned their hands against every other section, and tried to upset all the arrangements of other people, our New England friends are dreadfully excited that now, those whom they have pertinaciously attempted to injure—to whom their conduct has uniformly been insulting, should not care to be taxed any longer to pay them a pension—a bounty. The Senate of the United States has repealed the fishery bounties, paid to New England fishermen.

These bounties were originally intended as a drawback or refunding of the duties on the salt used in curing fish intended for export, but even that finicky excuse no longer exists—the fishery bounties amount now simply to so much money taken out of the pockets of the people of the rest of the Union, and given to the Eastern men of fish. The outcry is horrible. Maine and Massachusetts are indignant—mad—rantanquerous—obstreperous—cavorting.

General Persifer Smith, whose death at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, will be deeply regretted by the whole country, was sixty years of age, a native of the city of Philadelphia, where he studied under the late Charles Chaney, Esq. Upon his admission to practice he removed to New Orleans, where he continued to reside until the breaking out of the Florida war, when he volunteered for service there and served gallantly during two campaigns under General Gaines. He was appointed to command the Louisiana volunteers during the Mexican war, and subsequently made Colonel of the Rifle Regiment that was raised for the war, and was breveted Brigadier for his services at Monterey. He commanded a brigade in the memorable advance from Vera Cruz to Mexico, rendering efficient services at Contreras, Chapultepec, and the Belen gate, for which he received the warm commendations of Gen. Scott. For his services here he was made Major General by brevet. After the war he commanded the military department on the Pacific. Subsequently he commanded in Texas. In 1856 he was ordered to Kansas, and quite recently he was appointed to the command of the expedition to Utah. He had been suffering for some length of time with chronic dysentery, the scourge of military men liable to exposure in Southern latitudes. The dysentery he contracted in Texas.

Gov. Bragg has issued his proclamation for an election to be held in the 8th District, on the first Thursday in August next, for the election of a Representative to Congress, to fill the place made vacant by the resignation of Hon. T. L. Clingman.

HURRICANE.—We learn from the Portsmouth, Va. Transcript that on last Thursday a severe and very destructive hurricane was experienced by the people of Gates county on Tuesday last. At Gatesville the Episcopal church was blown down, a number of the finest and most substantial houses unroofed, a number of carriages, buggies, &c. broken to pieces, trees torn up, and other damage done. Our informant did not hear of any destruction of human life, though it will be miraculous if future accounts fail to bring accounts of destruction in this particular.

A telegraphic dispatch from St. Louis, of the 20th inst., says that accounts from Kansas report continued outrages and robberies by Montgomery's band of outlaws. Three hundred families are said to have been driven out of Lynn county. It is further understood that the band have sworn to drive all pro-slavery settlers out of the Territory, and break up the land sales. They are also reported to have said that unless Denver withdraws the troops from Fort Scott, they will proceed to Leocompton and hang him.

We have a few additional items by the Niagara at Halifax, from Liverpool.

The Army and Navy Club had given a banquet to the Duke of Malakoff in England, at which the Anglo French Alliance was toasted.

The French Commission appointed to consider the claims of Professor Morse, had recommended the Government to pay him 40,000 francs for the use of his system in France.

Trade in France continues to show symptoms of improvement. Increased orders from the United States had reached Lyons.

Belgium is remodeling her army and strengthening her defenses.

It is reported that the vine disease had again appeared in Portugal.

Four large batteries had commenced the defence of Copenhagen.

Details of the regulations for the abolition of Russian serfdom had been published.

Details of the scenes following [the fall of Lucknow] had been published.

Two or three native ladies of the Zenana were accidentally killed at the storming of the palace. The plunder and destruction were immense, but order was finally restored. Eight thousand men would be left to garrison the city. Symptoms of a revolt had appeared among the Sikhs.

The Paris Pays says, notwithstanding the fall of Lucknow, Oude is still in full insurrection.

Rates of discount in the Bank of England remain unchanged. Applications for discounts were very light.

Commercial editorials say the shipments of gold to the Continent continue heavy.

Congress.

Mr. Hayne, U. S. Senator from S. C., was sworn in and took his seat on the 20th inst.

The Homestead bill, giving 160 acres of land to actual settlers, was taken up in the Senate on the 20th, when Gov. Johnson spoke in its favor.

In the House the Civil Appropriation bill was amended, by striking out the item of a million of dollars for the Capitol extension, and as amended, passed.

The Hon. David S. Reid, of North Carolina, arrived in Washington city last Thursday. We are glad that his health appears to be entirely restored.

Dr. S. S. Satchell, of New Hanover county, has consented to deliver the Annual Address before the Graduating Class of the Wayne Female Academy at Goldsboro', on Thursday next.

Three Days Later from Europe.

HALIFAX, May 19.—The steamer Niagara, with Liverpool dates to the 6th inst., has arrived.

The City of Washington arrived out on the 6th inst., and the Indian on the 7th.

The Indian government bill was progressing slowly in Parliament.

The Times' city article speaks rather approvingly of the extension of the United States southwardly, and thinks that the absorption of Central America by the Americans cannot be long delayed, and that annexation will be a great improvement upon their present position. The Times also thinks that there will be more opposition to such annexation at home than abroad.

FROM INDIA.—The Paris Pays affirms that Sir Colin Campbell urgently demands large and immediate reinforcements.

The Governor General had issued a proclamation calling upon the rebels to submit and throw themselves on the mercy of the government. He confiscates their estates, but promises to spare their lives.

Another Railroad Accident.

ELMIRA, N. Y., May 19.—The New York Express train, on the Elmira, Canandaigua and Niagara Falls Railroad, which left Suspension Bridge yesterday morning at twenty minutes to 6 o'clock, ran off the track a half a mile west of Elmira Station.

The accident was caused by the equalizing bar and tender breaking, which fell on the track, thereby throwing the baggage car and two passenger cars off the track, stripping the latter of their seats.

The following persons were injured:

Mr. W. E. Bird, of New York; badly cut in the face but no bones broken. He is on his way to New York to-day.

George Walters, brakeman, cut above his eye. Mrs. Hurd and Mrs. Wymans, mother of Mrs. Hurd; slightly bruised.

A physician from Illinois; wrist dislocated.

A lady from Addison; slightly cut in the face.

All the injured have been returned to their respective homes.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, May 19.—The President of the United States has formally asked Congress for authority to contract a loan of \$15,000,000 for a term not exceeding ten years. The Senate committee of finance have the matter under consideration.

Judge Loring today entered on his duties as Chief Justice of the Court of Claims.

The President today sent to the Senate a message covering documents showing, in addition to the steamer Fulton being sent to the coast of Cuba, that orders have been given for the preparation of the raze Susepsham and brig Dolphin to join the home squadron for the purpose of cruising in that neighborhood, and the steam frigates Wabash to show her flag in those waters and protect at all times the persons and property of American citizens.

Mr. Cass has written to Mr. Dallas, saying that proper representations will be made without delay to the government of Spain against the search of American vessels by the naval forces of either that or the British government within the territorial jurisdiction of Spain. He adds that the government of the United States is satisfied that the government of that country will adopt similar measures to protect the vessels resorting to Spanish ports from lawless violence. Such protection they are entitled to, and if it is not secured elsewhere, it must be found in the power of our own country.

The President confidently believes that the British officers acted without authority, but it is not less due to the United States that their conduct shall be disavowed and peremptory orders issued to prevent a recurrence of similar proceedings. Mr. Davis is particularly instructed to bring the matter to the notice of the British government to prevent similar outrages. A documents were referred to the committee on foreign relations.

Mr. Boyce this morning from the select committee on the tariff and the navigation laws made a report against indirect taxation and in favor of free trade, arguing that the protective policy should be abandoned, and that the lowest rates should be on articles of necessity, and the highest on luxuries. In regard to the navigation laws, the committee propose that the restrictions should be removed.

Mr. Garnett does not concur in all the conclusions of the committee.

Survey of the Atrato Transito Rivers.

The Secretary of the Navy transmitted on the 20th inst. to the United States Senate a letter from Lieut. T. A. Craven, dated May 17, in reference to the practicability of an interoceanic communication from the Gulf of Darien to the Pacific ocean, by the Atrato and Turando Rivers.

The letter of Lieut. Craven concisely impobies the results of his late survey of those rivers, and contains the following conclusions in reference to the physical difficulties to be overcome in opening a communication.

"1. A cut through some five miles of submerged mud at the mouth of the river, with the prospective certainty of constant dredging to keep it open.

"2. The herculean labor and incalculable expense of cutting through the lagoons of the Turando and the embedded logs of the Pales Caidos, where the whole country is inundated during at least nine months of the year, and when the flood of a day may destroy the work of a week.

"3. The vast expense attending the removal of basaltic rock in a country where labor and provisions must all be imported at most extravagant rates.

"4. The want of an anchorage on the Pacific coast.

"5. The fatal effects of the climate, which, it may be safely estimated, will at all times disable one-third of any force that may be sent there.

"You will not be surprised, sir, that, with the preceding arguments, I am of the opinion that the proposed canal is impracticable, as involving an expenditure of treasure not easily estimated, and a sacrifice of life from which the stoutest heart may shrink. Human ingenuity and perseverance may, it is true, overcome the obstacles enumerated; but at least two generations must pass away ere the world could realize the completion of a much less extensive work than the contemplated."

Medical Convention.

The Medical Society of the State of North Carolina is now in session in this place, and we are indeed glad to see that the "Old North State" can boast of so fine and intelligent looking a body. This body commenced its sessions on Tuesday evening last, in the Academy, where the brethren were received and welcomed on behalf of the Craven County Society, by Dr. W. A. Ward, in an appropriate and elegant address. On Wednesday evening last the Annual Address was delivered by Dr. J. G. Tull, of this place, before a large, attentive and, if we may be allowed to add, a handsome audience. The speaker entered into a history and progress of the Medical Profession—the rise and progress of Therapeutics, and now and then giving to Quackery and Malpractice some cutting, yet happy hits. Indeed, we do not recollect the time when we were more entertained with a scientific address than we were with the one of which we speak. We hope to see it in print.

The Convention is still in session, and while we regret that we could not get our report in its proceedings ready by this issue, we hope to be able to report in full in our next. We wish the Profession God speed.

Newbern Union, 20th inst.

General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church—Withdrawal of a Presbyter.

CHICAGO, May 21.—The general assembly of the Presbyterian Church met here yesterday. One hundred and sixty-six delegates in attendance. Rev. M. Thompson, of Raleigh, was elected Moderator. A communication was received from the Presbytery at Harmony, Kentucky, announcing its withdrawal from the assembly on account of the slavery question.

After the transaction of the usual business, the assembly adjourned.

From Havana.

NEW YORK, May